

Docket: 445102

REMARKS

Consideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, and entry of this paper, is respectfully requested.

Claims 38-56 and 62-67 are presently pending and have been allowed.

Claims 40, 62 and 65 have been amended, for consistency and punctuation.

It is respectfully asserted that the aforementioned amendments are directed to formalities only and are not substantive. The aforementioned amendments do not require additional search or examination. These amendments resulted from a further review of the specification upon receiving the aforementioned Notice of Allowability, and therefore, were not earlier presented.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments as to the form, content, or entry of this paper, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Applicants believe no fee is due for in connections with the filing of this response, however, should any additional fee be deemed necessary in connection with this Response, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

LATHROP & GAGE LC

Date: July 19, 2006

By:


Jerome R. Smith, Jr., Reg. No. 35,684
2345 Grand Boulevard, Suite 2400
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
Tel: (816) 460-5306
Fax: (816) 292-2001
Attorneys for Applicants

8 of 8

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 10/617,934

CC 1720346v1